



**Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS)  
Standards, Protocols, Procedures**

Standard Name:	<b>P25 Digital Standard for Public Safety Infrastructure and Subscriber Equipment in the State</b>		Date Created:	<b>05-08-2018</b>	
Standard Policy #	<b>8.1.0</b>	Section Title:	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Status	<b>DRAFT</b>
Approval Authority:	<b>ISICSB</b>		Adopted:		Reviewed:

## **1. Purpose or Objective**

The purpose of this standard is to establish a single technology standard for interoperable land mobile radio communications equipment in the State of Iowa for use on the ISICS Platform. A standards-based approach will create multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary interoperability.

## **2. Technical Background**

### **Capabilities**

Project 25 (P25) is a suite of standards for digital land mobile equipment designed for vendor neutrality and seamless interoperability between all P25-compliant equipment. P25 standards are detailed in the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) series TIA-102. P25 ensures that all P25-certified land mobile radios can exchange voice traffic no matter which manufacturer made the radio. P25 is an open architecture facilitating interlinking of different vendors' systems so public safety agencies may choose from multiple vendors and products to meet their customized needs and have the freedom to choose from a wide range of standardized equipment and common features.

With input from the user community, these standards have been developed to allow for backward compatibility with existing digital and analog systems and to provide for interoperability in future systems. These standards are widely supported by the public safety community.

### **Constraints**

N/A

P25 Digital Standard for Public Safety Infrastructure and Subscriber Equipment in the State  
State Standard 8.1.0  
ISICSB Approval: **XXXX**

### **3. Operational Context**

This standard adopts the P25 Suite of Standards for consideration prior to purchasing new or replacement equipment for public safety communications systems in Iowa.

This standard also specifies issues to be addressed when using grant dollars (State or Federal) to purchase this equipment.

### **4. Recommended Protocol/ Standard**

All purchases of radio equipment funded wholly or in part with state or federal grant dollars must comply with the current requirements of the P25 standard, unless otherwise exempted under Section 5 of this State Standard.

### **5. Recommended Procedure**

When procuring equipment for communications systems, whether voice or data, a standards-based approach must be used to create multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary interoperability. The applicable requirements for Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems and data sharing systems are described below.

#### **Land Mobile Radio Systems**

All new digital voice systems must comply with the Project 25 suite of standards. This requirement is intended for government-owned or leased digital land mobile radio equipment used for public safety. The purpose of this requirement is to make sure that such equipment or systems are capable of interoperating with other digital land mobile equipment or systems used for emergency response.

This requirement does not apply to commercial entities that may utilize other types of communications technology that does not interfere with public safety communications. Further, this requirement does not exclude any alternative technology platform if that alternative platform solution will demonstrably enhance interoperability.

#### **SAFECOM Guidance for Federal Grant Programs**

When purchasing P25 equipment/systems, grantees will, at a minimum ensure the vendor has participated in equipment testing consistent with the Project 25 Compliance Assessment Program (P25 CAP) and equipment used on the ISICS platform is listed on the ISICS Approved Subscriber Equipment list, per ISICS State Standard 1.7.0, "Subscriber Radio Standards.

The Office for Interoperability and Compatibility (OIC) Wireless Communications Grant Guidance Tool will give users access to detailed information that will be helpful in selecting and procuring P25 equipment. You can find more information at <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/p25-cap-grant-eligible-equipment>.

## **6. Management**

The policy shall be reviewed for possible revision or cancellation as required by the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB).